



ORDER FOR THE  
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

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December 2, 2012  
8:15 a.m.

  
**Second**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# The Liturgy of the Word

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please assume a quiet and respectful attitude of worship.  
Please silence your mobile devices.*

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" . . . . . J.S. Bach  
*Lenora Morrow, organ*

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE. . . Matt, Amy, Luke, and Ava Mantooth

CHORAL INTROIT: "The Best of Rooms" . . . . . Randall Thompson  
*Text by Robert Herrick*

Christ, He requires still, wheresoe'er He comes,  
To feed or lodge, to have the best of rooms:  
Give Him the choice; grant Him the nobler part,  
Of all the house, the best of all's the heart.

*Laudis Domini Ensemble  
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP . . . . . Timothy L. Russell

✦HYMN OF ADVENT: No. 196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" . . . . . HYFRYDOL

✦READING FROM THE PROPHETS: Micah 5:1-5a . . . . . Courtney T. Humphreys

Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops;  
siege is laid against us;

**with a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek.**

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel,  
whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

**Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has given birth;  
then the rest of his brothers shall return  
to the people of Israel.**

And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord,  
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

**And they shall dwell secure,  
for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.  
And he shall be their peace.**

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE. . . . . HYFRYDOL

**Worship, honor, pow'r and blessing Thou art worthy to receive;  
Loudest praises, without ceasing, meet it is for us to give.  
Help, ye bright angelic spirits, bring your sweetest, noblest lays;  
Help to sing our Savior's merits, help to chant Emmanuel's praise!**

✦PRAYER OF ADORATION

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Christ, the Apple Tree" . . . . . Stanford Scriven

*This anonymous text first appeared in a New England Hymnal in 1784 and has long been used as an Advent hymn. The text alludes to Song of Solomon 2:3 – "and His fruit was sweet to my taste." Charles Spurgeon says, "Jesus yields fruit, let us taste the sweetness of it. If Jesus is as an apple tree among the trees of the woods, do not keep away from Him, but sit under His shadow, and taste His fruit."*

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green;  
The trees of nature fruitless be, compared with Christ the apple tree.

This beauty doth all things excel, by faith I know, but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see, in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought;  
I miss'd of all, but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary'd with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile;  
Under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . . . . ST. AGNES

**Jesus, the very thought of Thee with sweetness fills my breast;  
But sweeter far Thy face to see, and in Thy presence rest.**

**Jesus, our only joy be Thou, as Thou our prize wilt be;  
Jesus, be Thou our glory now, and through eternity.**

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION . . . . . A. Mitchell Moore

✦ GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN . . . . . M. J. Keasling

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

READING FROM THE PENTATEUCH . . . . . Genesis 3:8-15  
(page 3 in pew Bible)

*During our morning and evening Advent worship services this year, we are studying the Scripture texts comprised in the traditional Nine Lessons and Carols Service, which we shall observe on the morning of the Fourth Sunday in Advent.*

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

**The grass withers, the flower fades,  
but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen.** (Isaiah 40:6b, 8)

SERMON *The Defeat of the Serpent* Sanders L. Willson

## The Liturgy of the Table

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

*All those who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church as a communing member are warmly welcomed to receive communion today. Non-communing worshipers are encouraged to contemplate the love of Jesus Christ during this time. At Second Presbyterian, we encourage our children not to take communion until they have joined the church as communicant members.*

*We do, however, encourage non-communing children to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Those wishing to be served communion together as a group or family, please stand together in front of the two serving elders before taking the elements.*

**We believe in one God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,  
by Whom all things were made;  
Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man,  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered and was buried;  
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
and He shall come again with glory  
to judge both the living and the dead;  
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets;  
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;  
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;  
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen, Amen!**

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Dear God, Who faithfully fulfilled Your promise of redemption  
through the advent of Your One and Only Son,  
we confess with broken hearts  
that we have continued in our sin and rebellion  
and have grieved You with our calloused hearts.  
Please forgive us for all our sins,  
for we are truly sorry and do earnestly repent.  
Restore and renew our spirits by Your grace  
that we may draw near to You,  
obey You, enjoy You, and glorify Your matchless Name,  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

*For those unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat. Throughout this time of communion, we invite you to join in singing the hymns printed in bold below.*

“Fairest Lord Jesus” . . . . . CRUSADER’S HYMN

**Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,  
Thou, my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.**

**Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,  
And all the twinkling, starry host:  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels heav’n can boast.**

**Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
Now and forevermore be Thine.**

“O Nata Lux” . . . . . Lauridsen

*O nata lux de lumine,  
Jesu redemptor saeculi,  
Dignare clemens supplicum,  
Laudes preces que sumere.  
Qui carne quondam contegi  
Dignatus es pro perditis.  
Nos membra confer effici,  
Tui beati corporis.*

O born of light,  
Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
Mercifully deem worthy and accept  
The praises and prayers of Your supplicants.  
Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh  
For the sake of the lost ones,  
Grant us to be made members  
Of Your holy body.

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” . . . . . Stuart Townsend

**How deep the Father’s love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure,  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss;  
The Father turns His face away,  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.**

**Behold the Man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders;  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished.**

**I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
His death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer.  
But this I know with all my heart:  
His wounds have paid my ransom.**

“Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners!” . . . . .HYFRYDOL

**Jesus! what a friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul;  
Friends may fail me, foes assail me, He, my Savior, makes me whole.**

*Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.*

**Jesus! what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him;  
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He, my strength, my vict’ry wins.**

**Jesus! what a help in sorrow! While the billows o’er me roll,  
Even when my heart is breaking, He, my comfort, helps my soul.**

**Jesus! what a guide and keeper! While the tempest still is high,  
Storms about me, night o’ertakes me, He, my pilot, hears my cry.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

♣HYMN OF THANKSGIVING . . . . .HYFRYDOL

**Jesus! I do now receive Him, more than all in Him I find;  
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His, and He is mine.  
Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.**

♣BENEDICTION

♣CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: “Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying!” . . . .arr. Emma Lou Diemer

♣Indicates congregation standing CCLI License #252778

*We consider it a privilege to have our children in worship with us. If your small children become restless and vocal, we invite you to the children’s room especially designed for them at the rear of the Sanctuary. They are also welcome in the nursery. Older children should also be encouraged to come to church prepared to stay in their pew throughout the service.*

*One of our pastors will be available after the service to pray for you or to offer helpful direction regarding your spiritual life. He will be in the Gathering Room, which is the first room on your left as you exit the southwest door of the Sanctuary (closest to the pulpit). You may also send your confidential email to [pastor@2pc.org](mailto:pastor@2pc.org) with questions about your spiritual life.*

**HANGING of the GREEN**

**Tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

Join our Children’s and Youth Choirs as we bring in the holly and ivy to begin our Advent season. The service will conclude with activities for children, a live nativity, and the decorating of the church campus.